January 27, 1976

that if we do not, we are not in compliance. It would be a tragic situation and an extreme loss, not only to these people that we are talking about, these children, but it would be an extreme lost to the State of Nebraska. I urge you for the adoption of this amendment. If you have any further questions, I certainly would go into detail.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, colleagues, I am not sure that moving this back to \$1500 is wise. I am not sure that I understand Senator Kennedy's mandate to this Legislature that we must do this. I am attempting to educate myself to find out, but it would appear to me that we are still confiscating the private properties of those children that are going through Whitehall and I believe this to be reprehensible and I can't understand any reasoning that would make this an acceptable proposition. So undoubtedly, I will have to visit with Senator Kennedy privately to determine why it is the State of Nebraska must rob these kids.

PRESIDENT: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: I yield to Senator Kennedy.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kennedy.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Mr. President and fellow members, I will give you a little more. The medicare funds would be lost, if, if the resources limit is over \$1500, to the State of Nebraska and to these people. It would be \$266,000 of General Funds. Now they are absolutely to be in compliance. We must use the \$1500 or less. We are increasing it from \$750 to \$1500 because that is the general concept of the other states in the medicare program. It also, if we were not in compliance, those people, if they had an inheritance or anything else, would lose their social security inheritance and so forth. It is a national compliance that we have no alternative. I would be happy to give you a copy of this in detail but it is most urgent that we follow this \$1500 bracket.

SENATOR FOWLER: I would rise to support Senator Kennedy's motion. After explanation from the legislative fiscal analyst with regards to the federal resource requirement for medicaid, I came to realize that the \$1500 figure is a high as the state could go. Previously, I had opposed motions to lower it. But based on the information I have received, I see that the state has no choice but to have this figure. So I would support the motion.

PRESIDENT: Are you ready for the question? The question is the adoption of Senator Kennedy's amendment. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted. Senator Dworak.